

3.2. Monds

Mr. Monds attended the public meeting in Barstow on Dec. 15, 2004.

B-1 Mr. Monds expressed concern over the time and money spent to complete biological and cultural surveys in desert areas prior to pipeline construction. Mr. Monds believes that the biological and cultural surveys unnecessarily inflate project costs, resulting in higher natural gas prices to the customers.

Response:

B-1 Comment noted. As background, the biological and cultural surveys are required by State and Federal regulation prior to any ground disturbing activities. Specific regulatory requirements for these surveys are provided in Sections 4.2.2 and 4.10.2 of the DEIR/EA. The costs of the surveys constitute less than 0.1 percent of the projected pipeline construction costs.